

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number : **10-276789**
(43)Date of publication of application : **20.10.1998**

(51)Int.CI. C12N 15/09
C12N 1/15
C12N 1/19
C12N 9/16
//(C12N 15/09
C12R 1:68)
(C12N 1/15
C12R 1:685)
(C12N 1/19
C12R 1:865)
(C12N 9/16
C12R 1:685)
(C12N 9/16
C12R 1:865)

(21)Application number : **10-096830**
(22)Date of filing : **25.03.1998**

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(30)Priority
Priority number : **97 97810175** Priority date : **25.03.1997** Priority country : **EP**

(54) MODIFIED PHYTASE

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain the subject new enzyme consisting of a modified phytase derived from a bacterium belonging to the genus Aspergillus, having improved properties capable of giving myoinositol and inorganic phosphoric acid by acting on phytic acid, and useful as a food additive, a feed additive, etc.

SOLUTION: This enzyme is a new modified phytase having an improved activity obtained by partially modifying the amino acid sequence of the phytase of *Aspergillus fumigatus* through the comparison between the structure of phytase's active sites of *Aspergillus fumigatus* and that of *Aspergillus niger* which has more preferable properties of activity. The enzyme has an effect for hydrolyzing phytic acid into myoinositol and inorganic phosphoric acid, and useful as a food additive, a feed additive, etc. The modified phytase is obtained as follows: a structure of phytase having a more preferable activity is designed using computer based on the three-dimensional structure of the phytase of *Aspergillus niger* to obtain a model structure; and the amino acid sequence of the phytase of *Aspergillus fumigatus* is partially modified according to the model structure.